

(E-587A)

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We have pressed this effort both on a bilateral basis and at international fora such as the CSCE Review Conference in Madrid and the UN Human Rights Commission. In this regard, last year our representative to the UN Human Rights Commission, Mr. Michael Novak, urged the Soviet Union to make "a humanitarian gesture, which would contribute to universal good feeling, namely, a renewed search and full report, which may lay questions to rest; or else, in the best of all possible outcomes, result in the discovery of the whereabouts of a man who stands among the heroes of our time." At this year's session of the Commission, on February 22, Alternate Representative Walter Berns again raised the issue of Raoul Wallenberg, whom he termed "one of the genuine heroes of World War II, and one of the war's most noble spirits." Mr. Berns suggested that the UN Human Rights Commission's working group on disappearances be authorized to "make a renewed search and a full report" on the case "involving the most famous of all disappeared persons."

We have also continued to work closely with the Government of Sweden to try to confirm reports that have come to light about Wallenberg. To date, we have been unable to confirm any of the reports suggesting that Wallenberg might still be alive. We intend to continue to cooperate fully with the Government of Sweden and all other interested parties in a persistent effort to obtain information that will clarify the fate of this brave

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man. As Ambassador Max Kampelman noted at a CSCE plenary session, the Wallenberg case is one that "will not go away"; the Soviet failure "to appreciate the human factor which is symbolized by the Wallenberg case" only serves to stimulate further interest. The United States Government will continue to express concern over the Wallenberg case at every appropriate opportunity, both publicly and in our diplomatic communications with the Soviet Union.

Sincerely,

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